

Drivers, Warehouse & Dairy Employees

Please direct all correspondence
to the main office in Green Bay:

1546 Main Street
Green Bay, WI 54302
Phone (920) 435-8895
Fax (920) 435-1522

Local



No. 75

Fred Gegare
Secretary-Treasurer



Tony Cornelius
President

Manitowoc Branch Office:
800-900-0075

Sheboygan Branch Office:
800-900-0075

January 24, 2000

TO: JOINT SURVEY COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

**FROM: DANNY L. MCGOWAN - RECORDING SECRETARY
MIKE WILLIQUETTE - BUSINESS AGENT
TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 75
1546 MAIN STREET
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54302**

RE: SB 142 (COMPANION BILL AB 48)

Dear Committee Members:

**On behalf of Teamsters Joint Council #39 and Teamsters Local 75,
we want to thank you for allowing us the opportunity to address your
committee. We are here in support of SB 142 and AB 48. We as
Teamsters represent County Jailers throughout Wisconsin. We believe
this job falls within the meaning of "Protective Occupation Participant"
of the Wisconsin Retirement system, specifically, frequent exposure to a
high degree of danger or peril and a high degree of physical conditioning.
Part of the sworn officers' job is to make the arrest and get the criminal**

Ship by Truck

element off the street. The County Jailers have to interact with this criminal element on a daily basis for their entire shift of duty. With little or no personal protection they are in constant contact with the prisoners. Many of the prisoners are violent, drunk, on drugs, suicidal, have HIV or other very serious illnesses which place County Jailers at risk. Everyone knows that our jails are over crowded and the jail population continues to grow. The overcrowding of our jails is making a hostile environment even more hostile.

We hope you will recognize the work that County Jailers perform and that you will support SB 142 and AB 48.

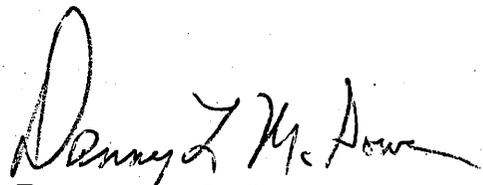
Please read the attachments which will hopefully help you to understand our reasons for being here.

Sincerely,

**Drivers, Warehouse & Dairy
Employees, Local Union No. 75**



**Mike Wiliquette
Business Representative**



**Danny L. Mc Gowan
Recording Secretary**

Our attachment include:

- 1. Letters of support for Protective Pension status for Corrections Officers from Brown County Sheriff Tom Hintz.**
- 2. Letter of support for Protective Pension status for Corrections Officers from Oconto County Sheriff Douglas McMahon.**
- 3. A number of letters from Correction Officers voicing their opinion as to why they should receive protective status.**
- 4. A petition signed by Oconto and Brown County Corrections Officers expressing their concerns.**
- 5. Brown County's job description for Corrections Officers clearly pointing out the dangerous duties Corrections Officers are required to perform.**

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Brown County

300 EAST WALNUT
P.O. BOX 22003
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305-2003
PHONE (920) 448-4200 FAX (920) 448-4206



THOMAS J. HINZ
SHERIFF

Senator Richard Grobschmidt
Rm. 404, 100 N. Hamilton
Madison, WI 53708

2/5/98

Dear Senator Grobschmidt:

I am writing this letter to show my support of Assembly Bill 362, relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement. For over 30 years I was a City of Green Bay Police Officer, leaving that agency with the rank of Assistant Chief on 12/31/96. Since 1/6/97 I have been Sheriff of Brown County, and it has been during the past year I have come to realize the difficult job jail officers have. Whether an individual is sworn or non-sworn in a jail, they both should qualify as protective service for retirement purposes. The difficulties and stresses on the job don't change if you are sworn or non-sworn, they stay the same.

I feel most people, including police officers, don't appreciate the magnitude of a jailers job. They come in daily contact with the individuals society wants to be protected from. Every day the staff in my jail have contact with murderers, rapists, predators, burglars, gang members and individuals with communicable diseases etc. They are responsible for identifying inmates who are suicidal and depressed. There is no part of the Sheriff's Department that has more potential for liability than the jail.

If given protective service status we would have less turnover with our jail staff. We are asking for higher qualifications from the correctional officers we hire than in the past, and I want to be assured we are doing everything we can do to keep our staff intact. The Brown County Sheriff's Department is in the process of replacing our sworn jail officers with non-sworn correctional officers. Providing protective status for the non-sworn would make correctional officer jobs more desirable as career positions.

Thank you for taking my request under consideration. If you have any questions please contact me at 920-448/4222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Hinz".

Tom Hinz
Brown County Sheriff

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Brown County

300 EAST WALNUT
P.O. BOX 22003
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305-2003
PHONE (920) 448-4200 FAX (920) 448-4206



THOMAS J. HINZ
SHERIFF

Representative John Ryba
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

2/5/98

Dear Representative Ryba:

I am writing this letter to show my support of Assembly Bill 362, relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement. For over 30 years I was a City of Green Bay Police Officer, leaving that agency with the rank of Assistant Chief on 12/31/96. Since 1/6/97 I have been Sheriff of Brown County, and it has been during the past year I have come to realize the difficult job jail officers have. Whether an individual is sworn or non-sworn in a jail, they both should qualify as protective service for retirement purposes. The difficulties and stresses on the job don't change if you are sworn or non-sworn, they stay the same.

I feel most people, including police officers, don't appreciate the magnitude of a jailers job. They come in daily contact with the individuals society wants to be protected from. Every day the staff in my jail have contact with murderers, rapists, predators, burglars, gang members and individuals with communicable diseases etc. They are responsible for identifying inmates who are suicidal and depressed. There is no part of the Sheriff's Department that has more potential for liability than the jail.

If given protective service status we would have less turnover with our jail staff. We are asking for higher qualifications from the correctional officers we hire than in the past, and I want to be assured we are doing everything we can do to keep our staff intact. The Brown County Sheriff's Department is in the process of replacing our sworn jail officers with non-sworn correctional officers. Providing protective status for the non-sworn would make correctional officer jobs more desirable as career positions.

Thank you for taking my request under consideration. If you have any questions please contact me at 920-448/4222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hinz".

Tom Hinz
Brown County Sheriff

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Brown County

300 EAST WALNUT
P.O. BOX 22003
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305-2003
PHONE (920) 448-4200 FAX (920) 448-4206



THOMAS J. HINZ
SHERIFF

Rep. Judith Klusman
Rm. 119 West
Madison, WI 53708

2/5/98

Dear Rep. Klusman:

I am writing this letter to show my support of Assembly Bill 362, relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement. For over 30 years I was a City of Green Bay Police Officer, leaving that agency with the rank of Assistant Chief on 12/31/96. Since 1/6/97 I have been Sheriff of Brown County, and it has been during the past year I have come to realize the difficult job jail officers have. Whether an individual is sworn or non-sworn in a jail, they both should qualify as protective service for retirement purposes. The difficulties and stresses on the job don't change if you are sworn or non-sworn, they stay the same.

I feel most people, including police officers, don't appreciate the magnitude of a jailers job. They come in daily contact with the individuals society wants to be protected from. Every day the staff in my jail have contact with murderers, rapists, predators, burglars, gang members and individuals with communicable diseases etc. They are responsible for identifying inmates who are suicidal and depressed. There is no part of the Sheriff's Department that has more potential for liability than the jail.

If given protective service status we would have less turnover with our jail staff. We are asking for higher qualifications from the correctional officers we hire than in the past, and I want to be assured we are doing everything we can do to keep our staff intact. The Brown County Sheriff's Department is in the process of replacing our sworn jail officers with non-sworn correctional officers. Providing protective status for the non-sworn would make correctional officer jobs more desirable as career positions.

Thank you for taking my request under consideration. If you have any questions please contact me at 920-448/4222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tom Hinz".

Tom Hinz
Brown County Sheriff

ATT
MIKRA 2

OCONTO COUNTY
Sheriff's Department

Douglas McMahon
Sheriff
(920) 834-6901

301 Washington Street
Oconto, Wisconsin 54153
Phone (920) 834-6900

FAX
(920) 834-6915

Greg Olson
Chief Deputy
(920) 834-6902

Telephone
(920) 834-6919

4/9/99

Representative Stephen Freese
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

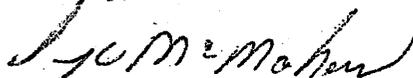
Dear Representative Freese:

I am writing this letter to show my support of Assembly Bill 48, relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement. For the last 33 years I have been in law enforcement and have been employed by the Oconto County Sheriff's Department. Since 1/3/95, I have been Sheriff of Oconto County and I have come to realize the difficult job jail officers have.

I feel most people, including police officers, don't appreciate the magnitude of a jailers job. They come in daily contact with the individuals society wants to be protected from. Every day the staff in my jail have contact with murderers, rapists, predators, burglars, gang members and individuals with communicable diseases, etc. There is no part of the Sheriff's Department that has more potential for liability than the jail.

Thank you for taking my request under consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me at 920-834-6900.

Sincerely,


Douglas McMahon
Oconto County Sheriff

cc: Senator Rodney C. Moen

December 18, 1995

Attention Joint Retirement Committee:

As a correctional officer, I am writing to pledge my support for SENATE BILL 427 which would classify county jailors as protective service under the Wisconsin Retirement System.

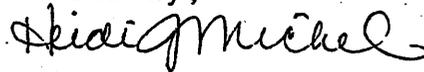
Contrary to what the general public believes all inmates are not locked behind bars in the County Jail. In the huber section of the jail, none of these inmates are locked down. Many of these hubers are in on charges of battery, disorderly conduct, armed robbery and sexual assaults. Their living quarters consist of an open dorm where they are free to move about between the hours of 4:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. In our county jail, when we are at full capacity, we deal with ninety-six inmates with a staffing of two per shift. These inmates are divided amongst two floors; however the risk the staff encounters is high when dealing with these unlocked violent offenders at all hours of the day--especially when they are locked down for the night.

In the other sections of the jail (juvenile and female lock-ups and huber inmates) the risk we encounter is just as high. When the female inmates are sentenced to prison, they develop an attitude of "I don't care." Juvenile sentenced to a state facility react in the same manner. At this point are risks of being injured while on duty increase. We are also subjected to individuals entering the jail under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances. Most of these individuals are very disruptive and hostile upon incarceration. This decreases our level of safety while working in the jail.

Our sworn deputies deal with these situations daily and they are considered protective service; however as a correctional officer, I am not. I strongly believe my job description is the same as theirs while they are working in the jail, that is why I support SENATE BILL 472.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Heidi J. Michel
Brown County Sheriff's Department

DATE; 12-14-95
TO: JOINT COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT
RE: INTRODUCTION OF A SENATE BILL CLASSIFYING COUNTY
CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AS PROTECTIVE SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

This letter is sent regarding the status of County Correctional Officers currently listed as general employees for purposes of retirement and disability benefits.

The statutory definition of a protective occupation is someone whose duties involve, "frequent exposure to a high degree of danger or peril and requires a high degree of physical conditioning." Protective status occupations have a lower normal retirement age than general employees. The percentage multiplier to calculate retirement benefits is also higher.

For at least the past four years, a number of proposals dealing with the addition of certain occupations to the list of Protective Status occupations have been introduced in Madison. Senate Bill 65 adds parole and probation officers, SB 284 would add librarians, teachers, and parole and probation officers. Senate Bill 427 attempts to add County Correctional Officers.

We understand the main drawback is the state's reluctance to impose additional funding requirements on county budgets. Many committee members in Madison agree that County Correctional Officers meet the letter and spirit of Protective Status. Our County Police Association advised, via legislative report, "Apparently, adding County Correctional Officers to the list of protective occupations is not a point of contention". (Newsletter, 12-21-93)

We feel that approval by the state is long overdue. Justifiably, all Brown County Jailers were under Protective Status for decades. However, since the replacement of sworn personnel with Correctional Officers, commencing in 1988, only sworn Jailers continue on Protective Status. Non-Sworn Jailers work under the General Employee Retirement System. Non-Sworn Jailers now perform the same duties without Protective Status as sworn Jailers performed for decades with Protective Status.

State Correctional Officers are covered under Protective Service Status. The inmates that they deal with stay in the County Jail until they are sentenced to the State Prison System. If we are both dealing with the same people, why should State Officers be Protective and County Correctional Officers be denied? These offenders and the dangerous situations that could possibly arise from their behavior are the same whether they are in the County Jail or in a State Prison.

We are faced with dangerous situations on a daily basis. The possibilities for serious injury are constant. We feel it is unfair and an injustice not to be considered under Protective Service and receive the recognition we deserve for the situations we deal with. If we are injured or disabled on the job, we would receive 75% of our regular pay, while under Protective Service, we would receive 100% of our regular pay. Not only would this bill protect us, but in case of permanent disability or death, it would ensure that our families are provided with the same financial benefits now only offered to sworn personnel.

Your consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

C.O. SMITS

C.O. Paula Smits

C.O. HEIL

C.O. Don A. Heil

12-17-95

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing you this letter to pledge my support for Senate Bill 427. I have been working as a Correctional Officer in the Juvenile section for 6 years. As a part of my job description and my duty I have been in numerous situations where I have put my own health and safety in great risk. Whether it be from controlling many juveniles who are packed into an overcrowded block or physically restraining a combative inmate.

Another point that needs to be brought out is that Police Officers and prison guards are employees who are covered under the Protective Service blanket. Those occupations directly relate to a Correctional Officer in the fact that we deal with the same population. Also, right now in Brown County there are sworn deputies who work the 7-3,3-11 shift, and correctional officers who work the 11-7 shift. Both of these groups are doing the identical job yet one is a Protective Service employee and the other is not. For some reason I think that is not right.

For these reasons and many more that I won't go into is why I am in favor of Bill 427. Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Zruteky

Brown County Sheriffs Department

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to pledge my support for Senate Bill 427, which would classify county jailors as Protective Occupational participants under the Wisconsin Retirement System.

The inmates that go to prison come here first. We have murderers and many other violent offenders in our cells. Yet prison guards are deemed Protective Service participants and we are not.

More importantly we have inmates that do not belong here but at Mental Health facilities. They come to us mentally unbalanced and usually off of their medication. They are usually more dangerous than other inmates that are here for more serious crimes. They really do not belong here but the Mental Health facilities will not accept them anymore. Their mental reasoning is often clouded, they are impulsive, and can become extremely violent. We face the risks that sworn officers do but we do not have the same protection.

This is why I support Bill 427.

Bonnie Defnet

Brown County Sheriff's Department

DATE: DECEMBER 15, 1995
TO: THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT
RE: SENATE BILL #427

I AM WRITING TO YOU IN REGARDS TO THE PENDING SENATE BILL #427. I AM CORRECTIONAL OFFICER EMPLOYED WITH THE BROWN COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPARTMENT. I HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED HERE FOR THE PAST 6 YEARS.

WHEN I BEGAN WORKING FOR THE COUNTY IN 1989, THE JAIL WAS IN THE PROCESS OF CHANGING THE JAIL PERSONEL OVER FROM SWORN DEPUTIES TO CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS. AT PRESENT, ALL SECTIONS ARE STAFFED BY CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, EXCEPT 2 SHIFTS IN THE LOCKUP SECTION OF THE JAIL WHERE THE TRANSITION IS STILL PENDING.

THERE HAS BEEN A GROWING TREND IN THE NUMBER OF AGGRESSIVE, AS WELL AS VIOLENT INMATES COMING INTO THE FACILITY. PRESENTLY, I AM ASSIGNED TO WORK IN THE JUVENILE AS WELL AS THE FEMALE SECTIONS OF THE JAIL, I HAVE OBSERVED THAT THE PEOPLE BEING BOOKED IN ARE COMMONLY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR OTHER CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES. THERE IS ALSO A GROWING NUMBER OF MENTALLY CHALLENGED PEOPLE COMING INTO OUR FACILITY. ALL OF THESE CONDITIONS LEAD TO UNPREDICTABLE, POTENTIALLY VIOLENT BEHAVIOR OF THE PEOPLE ENTERING AS WELL AS THOSE BEING HOUSED IN THE FACILITY.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE UNPREDICTABLE BEHAVIOR IS AS FOLLOWS. A FEW YEARS AGO IN THE JUVENILE SECTION, THERE WAS AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT. THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS THAT WERE ON DUTY RECEIVED SERIOUS INJURIES. ONE OFFICER RECEIVED A BROKEN JAW, WHILE THE OTHER RECEIVED AN INJURY TO HER SPINE THAT COULD HAVE LEFT HER PERMANENTLY DISABLED.

WHEN THE JAIL WAS STAFFED SOLELY BY SWORN DEPUTIES, THEIR INJURIES WOULD HAVE BEEN COVERED 100% BY THEIR PROTECTIVE STATUS. BUT SINCE THEY WERE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, THEIR INJURIES WERE ONLY COVERED BY WORKMANS COMPENSATION. I FEEL SINCE THE JAIL IS MAKING THE TRANSITION TO HAVING THE AREA STAFFED BY CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, WE SHOULD ALSO BE AFFORDED THE SAME PROTECTION GIVEN TO THE SWORN DEPUTIES WHO PREVIOUSLY DID OUR JOBS. ANYTHING LESS WOULD BE AN INJUSTICE.

SINCERELY,

David M. Petrich

DATE; 12-15-95
TO; JOINT COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT
RE; INTRODUCTION OF A SENATE BILL CLASSIFYING COUNTY
CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AS PROTECTIVE SERVICE PARTICIPANTS.

THIS LETTER IS IN REGARD TO THE STATUS OF COUNTY CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS FALLING UNDER THE PROTECTIVE OCCUPATION STATUS.

I AM A CORRECTIONAL OFFICER FOR THE BROWN CO. SHERIFF'S DEPT. ON APRIL 2, 1993, I WAS CHOKED AND BEATEN AND LEFT TO DIE ON THE JOB. I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT ANYONE IN SOCIETY TODAY KNOWING THE EXTREME VIOLENCE THAT IS TAKING PLACE COULD SAY THAT MY JOB IS NOT A "FREQUENT EXPOSURE TO A HIGH DEGREE OF DANGER OR PERIL AND REQUIRES A HIGH DEGREE OF PHYSICAL CONDITIONING." AS STATED IN THE STATUTORY DEFINITION OF A PROTECTIVE OCCUPATION.

I FEEL MY JOB EXPOSES ME TO DANGER ON A DAILY BASIS. I WORK OUT ON A REGULAR BASIS TO MAINTAIN A FIT LEVEL TO PROTECT MYSELF AND MY COWORKERS.

ALL CRIMINALS ARE BROUGHT INTO COUNTY JAILS. USUALLY, THESE CRIMINALS ARE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SOME KIND OF DRUG. THESE CRIMINALS ARE NOT HAPPY COMING TO THE JAIL. ALL CRIMINALS INCLUDING FELONIES, ARE KEPT AT THE JAIL DURING THE COURT PROCESS. OUR INMATES ARE OF MANY DIFFERENT CLASSIFICATIONS. WE HAVE MURDERERS IN WITH TRAFFIC OFFENDERS, ETC.

THE SIZE OF THE COUNTY JAILS HAVE GROWN EXTREMELY. BROWN COUNTY CURRENTLY HAS 305 INMATES WITH A JAIL CAPACITY OF 250. WE HAVE CELL BLOCKS DESIGNED FOR FIVE INMATES THAT HAVE SEVEN. WE HAVE DORMITORIES DESIGNED FOR HUBERS WHICH NOW CONTAIN LOCK-UP. IN SOME DORMS WE HAVE 18 TO 22 INMATES AND TWO CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS. THIS DORM HAS NO GATE OR BARS.

I KNOW THE COUNTIES DO NOT WANT TO FORK OUT THE MONEY TO CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, BUT MONEY IS MINOR WHEN I AM PUTTING MY LIFE AT RISK EVERY DAY THAT I GO TO WORK.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME;


CORR. OFFICER
TERA HUFF

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN;

I am writing to pledge my support for SENATE BILL 427, which would classify County Jailors as protective occupational participants under the Wisconsin Retirement System.

Contrary to what many people believe inmates in the County Jail are not all locked behind doors. In fact, speaking for the huber section where I have worked for the last eight years, none of the inmates are locked down. It is an open dormitory system where inmates are free to roam in and out of their blocks into the dayroom. The maximum for each floor is forty-eight with maximum for each block eighteen.

There is one correctional officer on each floor. We are required to make hourly block checks and also during the course of the day while assuming our normal duties we walk amongst the inmates. We have the same responsibilities as the sworn officers do without the protection. This is why I support Bill 427.

Sincerely yours,

Cheryl L. Mitchell

CHERYL L. MITCHELL

Brown County Sheriffs Department

December 18, 1995

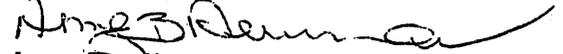
Attention Joint Retirement Commitment:

I am a correctional officer for the Brown County Sheriff's Department and I am supporting the SENATE BILL 427, which would classify county correctional officers under protective service.

As a correctional officer for Brown County I perform the same duties as the deputies that are currently staffed in the jail. I also have contact with the very same inmates that eventually end up in the prison system. I feel correctional officers, deputies and prison guards; although job classifications may vary, work with the same inmates at one point or another while they are going through the system. Our lives are at risk on a daily basis. I feel this alone would qualify county correctional officers to fall under protective service.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Amy B. Neumann

Brown County Sheriff's Department

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

MY NAME IS JOHN MITCHELL. I AM A CORRECTIONS OFFICER WITH THE BROWN COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPT. I HAVE BEEN WORKING IN CORRECTIONS FOR 12 YEARS.

I AM WRITING YOU IN SUPPORT OF BILL 427.

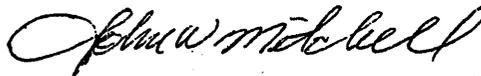
CORRECTION OFFICERS FACE A HIGH DEGREE OF DANGER EVERY DAY THEY GO TO WORK. THE POSSIBILITIES FOR SERIOUS INJURY ARE CONSTANT. STATE CORRECTION OFFICERS ARE PROTECTED, YET WE DEAL WITH THE SAME INMATES. THESE INMATES ~~IN~~ STATE INSTITUTIONS ALL HAVE BEEN HOUSED IN COUNTY JAILS PENDING TRAIL.

OUR JAIL HAS BEEN STAFFED BY SWORN OFFICERS FOR DECADES.

THESE SWORN OFFICERS HAVE BEEN PROTECTED. WE AS CORRECTION OFFICERS PERFORM THE SAME DUTIES AS SWORN OFFICERS, BUT DONT RECEIVE THE PROTECTIVE STATUS.

I ASK YOU TO SUPPORT THIS BILL TO GIVE CORRECTION OFFICERS THE SAME PROTECTION AND SUPPORT WE ALL DESERVE.

SINCERELY YOURS:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John W. Mitchell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

JOHN W. MITCHELL

Drivers, Warehouse & Dairy Employees

Please direct all correspondence
to the main office in Green Bay:

1546 Main Street
Green Bay, WI 54302
Phone (920) 435-8895
Fax (920) 435-1522



Local

No. 75

Fred Gegare
Secretary-Treasurer

Tony Cornelius
President

Manitowoc Branch Office:
800-900-0075

Sheboygan Branch Office:
800-900-0075

Senator Robert Wirch, Co-Chair
Jt. Survey Committee on Retirement Systems
Wisconsin State Capitol, Rm. 310 - South
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Representative Daniel Vrakas, Co-Chair
Jt. Survey Committee on Retirement Systems
Wisconsin State Capitol, Rm. 119 - West
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Senator Wirch, Representative Vrakas, and Committee Members:

The 125 Teamster members working in Oconto and Brown County jails respectfully request and urge your support of Assembly Bill 48. Of all the legislative proposals that have come across your desk this session, none is as important to these working men, women and their families as AB 48.

This bill would grant protective occupation status to county jailers for the purposes of the Wisconsin Retirement System. As you know, Wisconsin law currently defines certain positions as protective participants and also provides that employers shall designate other positions as protective if the positions' principle duties involve law enforcement or fire suppression, require frequent exposure to a high degree of danger, and require a high degree of physical conditioning.

County jailers work directly with criminals, and in so doing they place themselves at great risk on a daily basis. These men and women serve an integral role in Wisconsin law enforcement. The work performed by county jailers indeed qualifies, as that deserved of protective participant status. As you know our state correctional officers are designated protective status, and it is difficult to understand how criminals in state facilities are more dangerous than those in county facilities. In fact, it can be argued just the opposite. Regularly our correction officers are required to confront the same prisoners that end up in state prisons. These criminals are more violent as they are fresh off the streets. On several occasions, fights have resulted in officers being sent to the hospital with one in particular during a jailbreak coming very close to being killed.

We are all well aware of the level of commitment and the priority placed on the importance of keeping Wisconsin's communities and citizens safe from dangerous criminals. It is that very reason those working in the county jails take such pride in the profession. It's time to recognize

Ship by Truck

that the dangerous criminals we work so hard to keep off our streets to protect Wisconsin citizens are the same dangerous criminals we ask county jailers to work with every day.

Wisconsin needs to acknowledge that regardless of the county in which you reside, county jailers risk their well being every day they go to work to serve and protect the public. County jailers deserve protective occupational status, and AB 48 deserves your support and recommendation. Thank you for your attention.

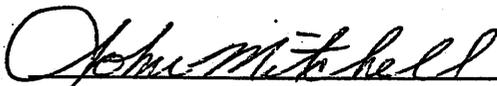
Sincerely,

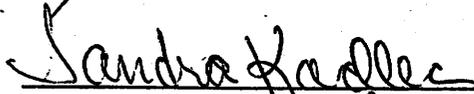
DRIVERS, WAREHOUSE & DAIRY
EMPLOYEES LOCAL UNION NO. 75

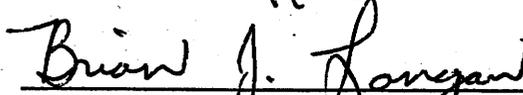

Michael Willette
Business Representative
Teamsters, Local 75

AND

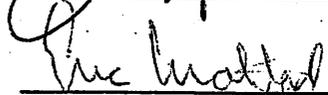
Fellow Teamster Members serving as Oconto and Brown County jailers:



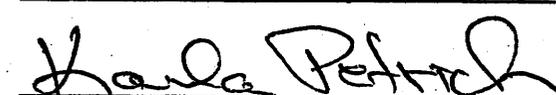


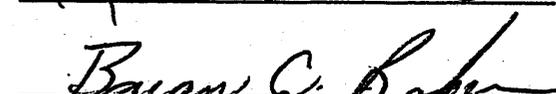


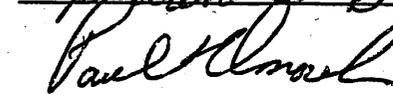




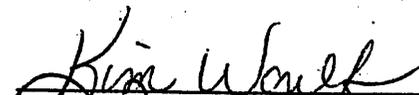


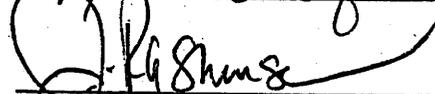




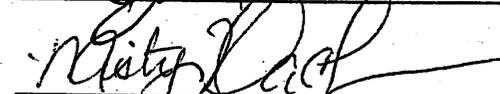


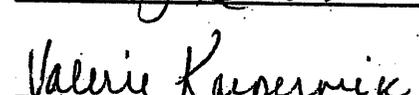


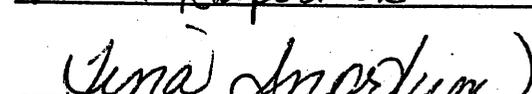


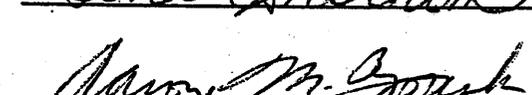


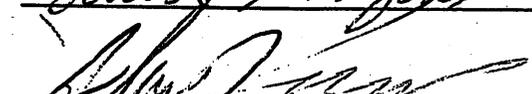


















George W. Foy

Irvin H. Ritzel

Nancy Wagner

Eileen Coudon

Wendy S. Swartz

Tom Frazier

Cheri Mitchell

Jean Clark

Jesse Verdyg

Amy Diederich

Mary L. Gerarden

Shary Stewart

Wendy S. Swartz

Dipie Mietke

Mark R. Zerbst

Sara Stumbel

Larry Olson

Cindy Link

John Francis

Jack L. Morrill

H. Eisner

Heidi Muehle

Dale Jones

Randy Von Hoden

Harri Meyer

Hyle Gung

Barbara Dylor

that the dangerous criminals we work so hard to keep off our streets to protect Wisconsin citizens are the same dangerous criminals we ask county jailers to work with every day.

Wisconsin needs to acknowledge that regardless of the county in which you reside, county jailers risk their well being every day they go to work to serve and protect the public. County jailers deserve protective occupational status, and AB 48 deserves your support and recommendation. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

DRIVERS, WAREHOUSE & DAIRY
EMPLOYEES LOCAL UNION NO. 75

Michael Williquette
Business Representative
Teamsters, Local 75

AND

Fellow Teamster Members serving as Oconto and Brown County jailers

Arnold Daignault (OCSO)

Bobbi Brazzan

Diane Pecor

Bruce Ampleman

Maech Roszak

Alvin Fuller

Tom B. Bross

Allan Lato

Bill J. Reed

Robert Roszak

Mary Gilles

Scott Burkhardt

Maie Ablaser

Ray Ferguson

Ross Badler

Melissa Mayer

**BROWN COUNTY
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

POSITION TITLE: CORRECTIONAL OFFICER
DEPARTMENT: SHERIFF
REPORTS TO: JAIL LIEUTENANT
DATE: NOVEMBER 1994

JOB SUMMARY:

Performs work involving the care, safety, custody and detention of children, and male and female adults in the Jail and Juvenile Detention Center; provides a positive rehabilitative influence to all inmates; insures compliance with all applicable state and federal laws; and acts within the parameters of the Brown County Jail and Juvenile Detention Center policies and procedures.

- Maintains security and discipline in the Jail and Juvenile Detention Center.
- Intervenes to break up or stop disturbances by reasoning with or subduing adult and juvenile inmates.
- Supervises the delivery of meals and issues cleaning materials and other supplies when necessary.
- Searches adult and juvenile inmates for contraband, weapons or dangerous materials.
- Maintains surveillance of all inmates in all areas of the Jail and Juvenile Detention Center.
- Administers first aid and secures medical assistance for inmates when required.
- Initiates appropriate paperwork for all inmates of the Jail and Juvenile Detention Center; prepares necessary forms and reports, maintains records, confiscates money which is over established limits from huber inmates and keeps a running avvount of money until inmates release.
- Assigns, supervises and inspects work of adult and juvenile inmates engaged in the cleanliness of the facility.
- Investigates illegal or criminal activities in all areas of the Jail and Juvenile Detention Center.
- Supervises transfer and movement of inmates regarding court appearances, huber/work release, or school assignments and other activities and appointments.
- Distributes inmate medication and keeps accurate records of such disbursements pursuant to the Jail Policy and Procedure Manual and Juvenile Detention Center Operations Plan.
- Conducts searches and daily inspections of living quarters.
- Protects adult and juvenile inmates from peer intimidation and physical confrontations.

Correctional Officer**Page 2**

- Restrains belligerent or non cooperative adults and juveniles when necessary.
- Prepares reports on daily activities and all other reports necessary for the successful operation of the Jail and Juvenile Detention Center.
- Conducts routine inspection and maintenance of Jail equipment.
- Performs computer entry documentation and retrieval.
- Performs related functions as assigned.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

- Computer Terminal
- General office equipment
- Keys

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**Education and Experience:**

High School Diploma or equivalent; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities.

Licenses and Certifications:**Ability to secure:**

- Law Enforcement Certification
- Jail Certification
- First Aid and C.P.R. Certification

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Knowledge of department policies and procedures.
- Knowledge of federal and state laws which apply to jails and secure detention facilities and of related care, treatment and security programs.
- Knowledge of techniques in inmate control and precautionary measures used in escorting and supervising inmate work details.
- Knowledge of rules and regulations governing the secure detention facility including Health and Social Services Chapter 346.
- Knowledge of adolescent behavior, interpersonal relations and social interactions.
- Knowledge of methods and practices of jail housekeeping.
- Ability to serve as a positive role model for children and provide effective direction and supervision.

Correctional Officer
Page 3

- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other staff members and members of the general public.
- Ability to supervise the activities of adult and juvenile inmates and deal with situations requiring tact, fairness, firmness, and good judgment.
- Ability to easily adapt to the changing procedures as they apply to the different sections and different classifications of inmates within the jail.
- Ability to use the force necessary to protect one's own safety and the safety of others.
- Ability to quickly remove an inmate from a dangerous situation and in case of fire or other emergency, supervise the immediate evacuation of inmates.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Ability to understand and follow both written and oral instructions.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

- Ability to lift 75 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 40 pounds.
- Ability to physically restrain inmates when dealing with physical confrontation.
- Intermittent standing, walking and sitting; occasional driving.
- Must be capable of using hand(s)/feet for repetitive single grasping, fine manipulation, pushing and pulling, and operating controls.
- Occasional bending, twisting, squatting, climbing, reaching, and grappling.
- Ability to communicate orally in a clear manner.
- Ability to distinguish sounds at various frequencies and volumes.
- Ability to distinguish people or objects at varied distances under a variety of light conditions.

This position description should not be interpreted as all inclusive. It is intended to identify the major responsibilities and requirements of this job. The incumbents may be requested to perform job related responsibilities and tasks other than those stated on this description.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
MINUTES OF MEETING
JOINT SURVEY COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2000
1:30 P.M.
ROOM 411 SOUTH, STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
MADISON, WISCONSIN
CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
 (Agenda Item 1)

The meeting of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems was called to order by Co-Chair Wirch at 1:37 P.M. in Room 411 South of the State Capitol Building in Madison, Wisconsin.

Roll call was taken as follows:

- Present: (8) Sen. Wirch, Rep. Vrakas, Sen. Erpenbach, Speaker Jensen, Rep. Schneider, Mr. Stella, Mr. Heineck, Ms. Lattis*.
 (*Ms. Lattis is replacing Ms. Hamblen for today's meeting.)
- Absent: (2) Sen. Panzer, Mr. Scott.
- Others Present: Paul Yakowenko, Walworth County Sheriffs; Alice Nocek, Walworth County Sheriffs; Emma Hoffman, Marathon County Sheriffs; Gerald Hoffman, Marathon County Sheriffs; Carol Gonzales, Kenosha Sheriffs; Thomas Corrao, Kenosha Sheriffs; Jeff Zemke, Kenosha Sheriffs; Sharon Martin, Kenosha Sheriffs; Darron Newton, Kenosha Sheriffs; Lyle Clayton, Winnebago Sheriffs; Dennis Boyer, AFSCME; Steven Werner, WPPA; Ed Konetcky, LaCrosse County Sheriffs; George Frye, Brown County Sheriffs; Brian J. Langan, Brown County Sheriffs; Dennis McGowan, Teamsters Local 75; Mel Willgett, Teamsters Local 75; Jessica Eally, Teamsters Jt. Council 39; Mark Strand, Fond du Lac County Sheriffs; Mary Steberg, Fond du Lac County Sheriffs; Jody Marroe, Fond du Lac County Sheriffs; Shirley Waddington, Winnebago County Sheriffs; Eugene Robinson, Jefferson County Sheriffs; David Moran, Calumet County Sheriffs; Michael Owens, Dunn County Jailers; Jacob Goeldner, Buffalo County Jailers; Bridget Griepentrog, Outagamie County Corrections; Dave VanderNoven, RCSD

Others Present:

Jailers; Todd Konen, Calumet County Jailers; Keith Bonde, Manitowac County Sheriffs; Tom Abrams, Sheboygan County Sheriffs; Tom Jolke, Sheboygan County Sheriffs; Roy Kluss, Sheboygan County Sheriffs; Roy Fadoski, Outagamie County; B. Wurtz, Outagamie County; Fay Geenen, Outagamie County; Shirley Miller, Washington County; Bob Lyons, AFSCME Council 40; Barry Granrath, Washington County; Peter Ritger, Washington County; Roger Mueller, Washington County; Tom Corcoran, AFSCME Local 2748; Kurt Heuer, Wood County Sheriff's Dept.; David Krahn, Waukesha County; Michael Serpl, Kenosha County; Dave Geertsen, Kenosha County; Rebecca Hable, Oneida County; Brian Jones, Oneida County; Paul Pertz, Oneida County; Becky Stesniak, Barron County; Dick Dukemp, Douglas County; Ralph Weisenberger, Trempealeau County; Daniel W. Schreineg, Trempealeau County Sheriffs; Thomas Grawley, Marathon County; Dale Zander, Marathon County; Amy Pellarski, Marathon County; Deb Jahns, Dodge County; Linda Thieme, Dodge County; Hannelove Hartl, Dodge County; Mark J. Schwartz, Dodge County; Blair Testin, WREA/Retired JSCRS-RRC Director; Hal Rebholz, WREA; Ronald Bentz, RPPFW; Dick Lipke, RPPFW; Allison Kujawa, Wis. Counties Assoc.; Kevin Kluck, Dodge County; Chris Myers, Dodge County; Beth Smith, Staff for Senator Wirch; Brian Pleva, Staff for Rep. Vrakas; Gordon Anderson, Legislative Council; Deb Breggeman, Staff for JSCRS.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 1999 MEETING

(Agenda Item 2)

Representative Vrakas moved, seconded by Senator Erpenbach, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 1999, meeting of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems.

Motion carried by voice vote.

ASSEMBLY BILL 326

(Agenda Item 7)

Assembly Bill 326, relating to granting creditable service under the Wisconsin Retirement System for service in the national guard or a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces.

Co-Chair Wirch opened the meeting to public testimony on A.B. 326. Appearing before the Committee were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Rep. Kitty Rhoades</u> , Author of the Bill	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Lt. Col. Terry McCardle</u> , Dept. of Military Affairs	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Sgt. Barry J. Foy</u>	IN FAVOR
4.	<u>Mr. Ken Bukowski</u>	IN FAVOR
5.	<u>Mr. John Dobyns</u>	IN FAVOR

Hearing no further requests for testimony, Co-Chair Wirch closed the public hearing on A.B.326.

Registering on A.B. 326 were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Rep. Scott Walker</u>	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Ms. Bonnie Moser</u>	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Ms. Jane Elmer</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
4.	<u>Ms. Eunice Berg</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
5.	<u>Mr. Blair Testin</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
6.	<u>Mr. Hal Rebholz</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
7.	<u>Mr. Howard Wilsmann</u> , WREA	INFORMATION

Senate Bill 142/Assembly Bill 48

(Agenda Items 3 and 4)

Senate Bill 142/Assembly Bill 48, relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement system.

Co-Chair Wirch opened the meeting to public testimony on S.B. 142 and A.B. 48. Appearing before the Committee were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Rep. Steve Freese</u> , Author of A.B. 48	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Mr. Terry Tuschen</u> , Sen. Moen's staff	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Mr. David Geertsen</u> , Kenosha County	OPPOSED
4.	<u>Mr. Kurt Heuer</u> , Wood County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
5.	<u>Mr. Bob Lyons</u> , AFSCME Council 40	IN FAVOR
6.	<u>Ms. Allison Kujawa</u> , Wisconsin Counties Assoc.	OPPOSED
7.	<u>Mr. Roy Kluss</u> , AFSCME	IN FAVOR
8.	<u>Mr. Dave Vanden Noven</u> , Rock County Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
9.	<u>Mr. Jeff Wiswell</u> , Wis. Sheriff's/Dep. Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
10.	<u>Mr. Carl Fleischman</u> , Wis. Sheriff's/Dep. Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
11.	<u>Mr. Milton Marquardt</u> , Wis. Sheriff's/Dept. Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
12.	<u>Mr. Darron Newton</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
13.	<u>Mr. Doug Johnson</u> , Washington County	OPPOSED
14.	<u>Mr. Tom Jolke</u> , Sheboygan Co. Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
15.	<u>Mr. Tom Corrao</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
16.	<u>Ms. Carol Gonzales</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
17.	<u>Mr. Jacob Goeldner</u> , Buffalo County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
18.	<u>Mr. Paul Yakowenko</u> , Walworth County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
19.	<u>Ms. Alice Nocek</u> , Walworth County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
20.	<u>Mr. Delmond Horn</u> , Wis. Professional Police Assoc.	IN FAVOR
21.	<u>Mr. George Frye</u> , Brown County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
22.	<u>Mr. Brian Langan</u> , Brown County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
23.	<u>Mr. Michael Williquette</u> , Teamsters Local 75	IN FAVOR
24.	<u>Mr. Danny McGowan</u> , Teamsters Local 75	IN FAVOR
25.	<u>Mr. Hubert Lawson</u> , Oneida County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
26.	<u>Ms. Emma Hoffman</u> , Marathon County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
27.	<u>Mr. Lyle Clayton</u> , Winnebago County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
28.	<u>Mr. Edward Konetchy</u> , LaCrosse County Sheriff's Assoc.	IN FAVOR
29.	<u>Mr. Dick Pukema</u> , Douglas County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
30.	<u>Mr. Eugene Robinson</u> , Wisconsin County Police	IN FAVOR
31.	<u>Mr. Mark Strand</u> , Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
32.	<u>Mr. James Kroncke</u> , Outagamie County	IN FAVOR
33.	<u>Mr. Steve Werner</u> , Wis. Professional Police Assoc.	IN FAVOR
34.	<u>Ms. Linda Thieme</u> , Dodge County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
35.	<u>Ms. Deb Jahns</u> , Dodge County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
36.	<u>Mr. Michael Harmsen</u> , Dodge County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
37.	<u>Mr. Mark Schwartz</u> , Dodge County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR

Hearing no further requests for testimony, Co-Chair Wirch closed the public hearing on S.B. 142 and A.B. 48.

Registering on S.B. 142 and A.B. 48 were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Mr. Bill Fendel</u> , Wis. State Employees Union	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Mr. Brian Jones</u> , Oneida County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Ms. Rebecca Hable</u> , Oneida County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
4.	<u>Mr. Donald Markwardt</u> , Manitowoc County Board	OPPOSED
5.	<u>Mr. Michael Serpe</u> , Kenosha County	OPPOSED
6.	<u>Mr. David Krahn</u> , Waukesha County	OPPOSED
7.	<u>Ms. Maggie Merdler</u> , Wis. State Employees Union	IN FAVOR
8.	<u>Mr. Chris Myers</u> , Dodge County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
9.	<u>Mr. Daniel Schreiner</u> , Trempealeau County Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
10.	<u>Mr. Tom Corcoran</u> , AFSCME	IN FAVOR
11.	<u>Ms. Joanne Ricca</u> , Wis. State AFL-CIO	IN FAVOR
12.	<u>Mr. Gary Pellowski</u> , Wis. Professional Police Assoc.	IN FAVOR
13.	<u>Mr. Dennis Boyer</u> , AFSCME	IN FAVOR
14.	<u>Mr. Thomas Crawley</u> , Marathon County	IN FAVOR
15.	<u>Mr. Dale Zander</u> , Marathon County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
16.	<u>Mr. Steve Borroughs</u> , Shawano County	IN FAVOR
17.	<u>Ms. Joanna Richard</u> , Attorney Gen. Doyle's Office	IN FAVOR
18.	<u>Mr. Patrick Coraggio</u> , Labor Assoc. of Wis.	IN FAVOR
19.	<u>Mr. James Cardinal</u> , Wis. Sheriff's & Dep. Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
20.	<u>Mr. Dan Van Oss</u> , Calumet County Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
21.	<u>Mr. Forbes McIntosh</u> , Wis. County Police Assoc.	IN FAVOR
22.	<u>Mr. Gary Hemauer</u> , Calumet County Jail	IN FAVOR
23.	<u>Mr. Todd Konen</u> , Calumet County Jail	IN FAVOR
24.	<u>Ms. Mary Steberg</u> , Fond du Lac Co. Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
25.	<u>Ms. Jody Marcoe</u> , Fond du Lac Co. Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
26.	<u>Mr. Tom Abrams</u> , Sheboygan County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
27.	<u>Mr. Michael Wayne Owens</u> , Dunn County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
28.	<u>Ms. Bridget Griepentrog</u> , Outagamie County	IN FAVOR
29.	<u>Mr. Roy Fadcowski</u> , Outagamie County	IN FAVOR
30.	<u>Mr. Brian Wirtz</u> , Wis. Professional Police Assoc.	IN FAVOR
31.	<u>Ms. Fay Geenen</u> , Outagamie County	IN FAVOR
32.	<u>Ms. Christine Corbett</u> , Manitowoc County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
33.	<u>Mr. Gerald Hoffman</u> , Marathon County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
34.	<u>Mr. Jeff Zemke</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
35.	<u>Ms. Sharon Martin</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
36.	<u>Mr. Peter Ritger</u> , Washington County	IN FAVOR

- 6 -

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
37.	<u>Ms. Shirley Miller</u> , Washington County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
38.	<u>Mr. Barry Granrath</u> , Washington County	IN FAVOR
39.	<u>Ms. Shirley Waddington</u> , Winnebago County Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
40.	<u>Mr. Roger Mueller</u> , Washington County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
41.	<u>Mr. John Dobyms</u>	IN FAVOR
42.	<u>Mr. Martin Beil</u> , Wis. State Employees Union	IN FAVOR
43.	<u>Ms. Jill Davy</u>	IN FAVOR
44.	<u>Sheriff Terry Dryden</u> , Washburn County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
45.	<u>Mr. Joel Harmelink</u> , Sheboygan County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
46.	<u>Mr. Gene Kew</u>	IN FAVOR
47.	<u>Mr. Randy Stammen</u> , Sauk County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
48.	<u>Senator Brian Burke</u>	IN FAVOR
49.	<u>Mr. Keith Bonde</u> , Manitowoc County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
50.	<u>Mr. Paul Proulx</u> , Lincoln County Sheriff	IN FAVOR
51.	<u>Mr. Ralph Weisenberger</u> , Trempealeau Co. Sheriff's	IN FAVOR
52.	<u>Sheriff Steve Liebe</u> , Waupaca County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
53.	<u>Sheriff Stan Potocki</u> , Portage County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
54.	<u>Mr. Paul Erlitz</u>	IN FAVOR
55.	<u>Ms. Jane Elmer</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
56.	<u>Ms. Eunice Berg</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
57.	<u>Mr. Blair Testin</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
58.	<u>Mr. Hal Rebholz</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
59.	<u>Mr. Howard Wilsmann</u> , WREA	INFORMATION

SENATE BILL 97

(Agenda Item 5)

Senate Bill 97, relating to increasing the membership of the employee trust funds board.

Co-Chair Vrakas opened the meeting to public testimony on S.B. 97. Appearing before the Committee were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Senator Robert Wirsch</u> , Author of the Bill	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Mr. Ken Opin</u> , WRT and WEAC	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Ms. Diane Jetzer</u> , WRT	IN FAVOR
4.	<u>Ms. Arlene Braden</u> , WEAC	IN FAVOR

Hearing no further requests for testimony, Co-Chair Vrakas closed the public hearing on S.B. 97.

Registering on S.B. 97 were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Mr. Steven Werner</u> , Wis. Prof. Police Association	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Mr. Bob Lyons</u> , AFSCME Council 40	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Mr. Mel Sensenbrenner</u> , SEA	IN FAVOR
4.	<u>Mr. Paul Gabriel</u> , Wis. Tech. College's District Boards	IN FAVOR
5.	<u>Ms. Jane Elmer</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
6.	<u>Ms. Eunice Berg</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
7.	<u>Mr. Blair Testin</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
8.	<u>Mr. Hal Rebholz</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
9.	<u>Mr. Howard Wilsmann</u> , WREA	INFORMATION

ASSEMBLY BILL 245

(Agenda Item 6)

Assembly Bill 245, relating to duty disability benefits for protective occupation participants under the Wisconsin retirement system.

Co-Chair Wirch opened the meeting to public testimony on A.B. 245. Appearing before the Committee were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Rep. Joan Wade Spillner</u> , Author of the Bill	IN FAVOR
2.	<u>Mr. Joe Strohl</u> , Professional Firefighters	OPPOSED
3.	<u>Mr. Steven Werner</u> , Wis. Prof. Police Assoc.	OPPOSED
4.	<u>Mr. Martin Beil</u> , Wis. State Employees Union	OPPOSED
5.	<u>Mr. Don Harmon</u>	IN FAVOR
6.	<u>Mr. Charles Crowe, Jr.</u>	OPPOSED

Hearing no further requests for testimony, Co-Chair Wirch closed the public hearing on A.B. 245.

Registering on A.B. 245 were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Mr. Darron Newton</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	OPPOSED
2.	<u>Ms. Becky Stesniak</u> , Barron County Sheriff's Dept.	IN FAVOR
3.	<u>Mr. Dave Vander Noven</u> , RCSD Union 2489	OPPOSED
4.	<u>Mr. Mark Zeier</u> , Professional Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
5.	<u>Mr. Rick Gale</u> , Professional Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
6.	<u>Mr. John Gee</u> , Professional Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
7.	<u>Mr. David Bosarilo</u> , Professional Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
8.	<u>Mr. Dave Wenzel</u> , Professional Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
9.	<u>Mr. Jeff Zemke</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	OPPOSED
10.	<u>Mr. Thomas Corrao</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	OPPOSED
11.	<u>Mr. Bob Lyons</u> , AFSCME Council 40	OPPOSED
12.	<u>Mr. Ronald Bentz</u> , Retired Prof. Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
13.	<u>Mr. Tom Corcoran</u> , AFSCME Local 2748	OPPOSED
14.	<u>Mr. Dennis Boyer</u> , AFSCME	OPPOSED
15.	<u>Ms. Carol Gonzales</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	OPPOSED
16.	<u>Mr. Steve Williams</u> , Wis. Troopers Association	OPPOSED
17.	<u>Mr. Gary Vokovitch</u> , Wauwatosa Firefighters	OPPOSED
18.	<u>Mr. Dick Lipke</u> , Retired Prof. Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
19.	<u>Mr. Eugene Robinson</u> , Wis. County Police Assoc.	OPPOSED
20.	<u>Ms. Sharon Martin</u> , Kenosha County Sheriff's Dept.	OPPOSED
21.	<u>Mr. David Bloom</u> , Wis. State Fire Chiefs Assoc.	OPPOSED
22.	<u>Mr. Patrick Coraggio</u> , Labor Association of Wis.	OPPOSED
23.	<u>Mr. Tom Eperanza</u> , Retired Prof. Firefighters of Wis.	OPPOSED
24.	<u>Mr. Mike Drury</u> , Merrill Firefighters	OPPOSED
25.	<u>Ms. Maggie Merdler</u> , WSEU/AFSCME	OPPOSED
26.	<u>Mr. Bill Fendel</u> , Wis. State Employees Union	OPPOSED
27.	<u>Mr. Tony Studt</u> , Waukesha County Municipal Executives	IN FAVOR
28.	<u>Ms. Sandy Burdick</u> , Wis. County Police Assoc.	IN FAVOR
29.	<u>Mr. Ed Huck</u> , Wisconsin Alliance of Cities	IN FAVOR
30.	<u>Ms. Allison Kujawa</u> , Wisconsin Counties Assoc.	IN FAVOR
31.	<u>Ms. Jane Elmer</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
32.	<u>Ms. Eunice Berg</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
33.	<u>Mr. Blair Testin</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
34.	<u>Mr. Hal Rebholz</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
35.	<u>Mr. Howard Wilsmann</u> , WREA	INFORMATION

SENATE BILL 326
(Agenda Item 8)

Senate Bill 326, relating to making of additional retirement contributions by participants in the Wisconsin retirement system; deferred compensation programs established by the deferred compensation board; purchase of forfeited creditable service under the Wisconsin retirement system; reimbursement of moneys paid by the department of employe trust funds as a result of misrepresentation, fraud or error; and creditable military service under the Wisconsin retirement system (suggested as remedial legislation by the Dept. of Employee Trust Funds).

Co-Chair Wirch opened the meeting to public testimony on S.B. 326. Appearing before the Committee was:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Mr. Dave Stella</u> , Dept. of Employee Trust Funds	IN FAVOR

Hearing no further requests for testimony, Co-Chair Wirch closed the public hearing on S.B. 326.

Registering on S.B. 326 were:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
1.	<u>Ms. Jane Elmer</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
2.	<u>Ms. Eunice Berg</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
3.	<u>Mr. Blair Testin</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
4.	<u>Mr. Hal Rebholz</u> , WREA	INFORMATION
5.	<u>Mr. Howard Wilsmann</u> , WREA	INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Roll call was taken as follows:

- Present: (8) Sen. Wirch, Rep. Vrakas, Sen. Erpenbach, Speaker Jensen, Rep. Schneider, Mr. Stella, Mr. Heineck, Ms. Lattis*.
- Absent: (2) Sen. Panzer, Mr. Scott.

SENATE BILL 326

(Agenda Item 8)

Representative Vrakas moved, seconded by Senator Wirch to recommend Senate Bill 326 as good public policy.

Roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: (8) Sen. Wirch, Rep. Vrakas, Sen. Erpenbach, Speaker Jensen,
Rep. Schneider, Mr. Stella, Mr. Heineck, Ms. Lattis*.

Noes: (0)

Absent: (2) Sen. Panzer, Mr. Scott.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

OTHER MATTERS

(Agenda Item 9)

Co-Chair Vrakas acknowledged that Mr. Dave Heineck is retiring this week and today was his last meeting of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems. Mr. Heineck represented the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance on the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems and the Retirement Research Committee for approximately 11 1/2 years.

ADJOURNMENT

(Agenda Item 10)

The meeting of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The next meeting will be at the call of the Co-Chairs.

Debra Breggeman, Recording Secretary

STATE OF WISCONSIN

JOINT SURVEY COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2000

11:00 A.M.

ROOM 417 NORTH (GAR), STATE CAPITOL BLDG.

A G E N D A

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.
2. Consideration of the Minutes of the February 21, 2000 Meeting.
3. Senate Bill 365 relating to executive participating employe status under the Wisconsin retirement system for certain court commissioners. (Public Hearing)
4. Assembly Bill 800 relating to staff support for the joint survey committee on retirement systems and the retirement research committee and making an appropriation. (Public Hearing and Executive Session)
5. Senate Bill 97 relating to increasing the membership of the employe trust funds board. (Executive Session)
6. Assembly Bill 455 relating to establishing a presumption for employment-connected disease for state and county fire fighters. (Executive Session)
7. Senate Bill 142 relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement system. (Executive Session)
8. Assembly Bill 48 relating to classifying county jailers as protective occupation participants for the purposes of the Wisconsin retirement system. (Executive Session)
9. Other Matters.
10. Adjournment.

BILLS OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST

A.B. 9 – Pension Credit for Service in the Peace Corps, VISTA, etc.

Data has been requested from the Peace Corps to enable estimation of this bill's cost. A source for VISTA data is being sought. We will also need to identify other federal programs that might also be covered by this bill. The cost estimate will be easy to make once we have the data, and basic data in summarized form should be sufficient.

A.B. 309 – Excluding Part-Time, Seasonal and Contractual Employees from Social Security

-Plate -Shibilsky

The general effect of this would be to save the State 7.65% of the payroll for employees currently covered by Social Security who elect the alternative money purchase plan to be provided for them in lieu of Social Security coverage.

There are two questions to be answered in order to estimate the cost savings to the State under this bill:

1. The Data Question: How many employees and how much payroll would be affected? We may also have to get some idea of their relative ages, as explained below.
2. The Election Question: What percentage of employees at different pay levels would be likely to decline Social Security in favor of the private retirement plan offered to them?

I would think that older low paid employees would be inclined to prefer Social Security over the 7.5% money purchase plan, if they realized that Social Security uses a front-loaded benefit formula that greatly favors the lower paid. Also, Social Security benefits are not (yet) fully taxable, while pension benefits are. Younger employees with more years to go until retirement would seem likelier to choose the money purchase plan. Also, younger people seem to have little faith in the survival of Social Security.

Ideally, we would like to get data on election rates from another state that has already implemented this. If we cannot get data this way, then we will have to try to get age information and make some educated guesses as to rates of election of the alternate plan.

We have "absolute coverage" agreement w/ feds

S.B. 119 – Joint & Survivor Death Benefit Beneficiary No Longer Must Be a Dependent

Information needed to estimate the cost of this bill can probably all be obtained from ETF. I would need some information about the election of lump sums by those eligible for the J&S benefit, and also it might help to have the active life data that ETF gave the actuaries for the 1998 valuation. With this, it would require from 1 to 3 days of work (2 to 6 working days) for me to prepare the fiscal estimate -- depending on whether I could find a way to estimate it by hand, or had to adapt spreadsheets that I developed for the ORP study.

A.B. 245 -- Physical Examinations Required for Duty Disability

There are three conditions for a protective participant to be eligible for duty disability:

1. Injured or sickened in the line of duty, and
2. The disability is likely to be permanent, and
3. It causes him/her to retire, to be given light duty, or to lose chance of advancement.

This bill would require periodic medical examinations to determine whether the disability has continued. If not, then the disability benefit would be terminated. It might be helpful to define more carefully to what degree the disability must have persisted -- e.g., if the doctor no longer thinks that it seems likely to be a permanent condition, then has the disablement ended?

Note that the final paragraph of the bill is not enforceable against the former employer. There is no way to assure that an employee who has recovered from disability will get his or her former job back -- or for that matter, that the individual will be able to secure a similar job anywhere. If the recovered employee cannot secure a similar job, then he or she might have to accept a new line of work in order to find employment.

For such employees, this legislation would, in effect, be imposing *after the fact* the same strict definition of disability as non-protective employees are subjected to by 40.63(1)(b) *before the fact* (i.e., before they are granted disability benefits) -- namely, that the ability to perform any substantial gainful activity is enough to disqualify them from disabled status.

From here it is only a small step of logic to ask why the law should not be changed to apply to protective participants the stricter 40.63(1)(b) definition of disability in the first place. If this seems too harsh a policy to apply to police, etc., then a smaller partial duty disability benefit could be defined to fill the gap. Other police plans have this. (Just a thought.)

Employer contribution rates for the Section 40.65 disability insurance program are now about 3.3% of protectives' \$710 million payroll. Therefore, the full cost for duty disability is running at about \$23.5 million annually. If, for example, one in four future disabilities would be terminated under this bill, then the ultimate savings (in current dollars) would be somewhat less than one-fourth of the full \$23.5 million now being spent -- that is, somewhat less than 0.8% of payroll or \$6 million annually.

It would not be a full one-fourth of the total disability cost because (1) ETF would bear some expense for the medical examinations, and (2) each person disqualified for benefits would have drawn some benefits before being disqualified. For this example we can roughly estimate that the actual cost savings to the employers from this bill would be about 75% of the potential savings, which is about 0.62% of payroll or \$4,400,000 annually (in current dollars).

This much savings would not be realized immediately, but would be the limit of a pattern of increased savings each year over a period of time. This is because much of the current 3.3% of payroll contribution is needed to pay for those currently disabled, who are less likely to lose their benefits under this bill than are those who will become disabled in the future.

The assumption that one in four disabilities might be terminated under this bill is for purposes of example only. Further research would have to be done to learn what level of recovery might indeed be expected. "One in four" is a subjective impression that I have based on my previous experience with the West Virginia State Police, and it may or may not be a good assumption to use for a WRS estimate.

NOTES ON OTHER BILLS

A.B. 48 & S.B. 142 – Protective Status for County Jailers

Fiscal note has been sent out.

A.B. 124 / S.B. 88 – Allows Pre-1974 Military Service & "Double-Dipping"

I have the necessary data for costing out the addition of pre-1974 military service. The "double-dipping" part of the bill may prove to be more problematical. It will take a couple of working days to estimate the former. I should have a better idea of the latter once I've done the former.

S.B. 88 also allows "double-dipping", so it will be estimated along with A.B. 124.

A.B. 145 – Pension Credit for Public Health Service Work

I should have the fiscal note done in a couple of days. Very minimal cost to WRS.

A.B. 916 – Social Security/Part-Time Employees

This is similar to A.B. 309. *SS admin. wont want to do this (ETF has concerns also)*

S.B. 105 – Corrections Teachers Getting Protective Status

We will send this fiscal note out today or tomorrow. Pension cost is about \$300,000. These teachers don't satisfy the physical part of the definition for protectives, according to someone over at Corrections.

S.B. 127 – Retroactive Death Benefits to 1/1/97

Should not be too hard to estimate, but this is a bad idea. Why draw the line at 1/1/97?

Scott's calendar:

May 18: Coalition of Annuitants meeting
May 19: DER class
May 20: DER class
May 26: DER class
May 27: DER class
June 17-July 5: Vacation
Jul 8: Dental appointment
Jul 26: Dental appointment

Debra Breggeman's bad days (when she can't stay late):

June 2, June 9, June 16.

Other considerations:

Norm should have the variable annuity study done around June 15 thru the end of June.

As soon as we get into the new fiscal year he can begin his study of benefit increase bill(s) [A.B. 260, A.B. 323, S.B. 131, maybe others?].